

Public Notice – Environmental Project

PURPOSE OF NOTICE:

The Department of Environmental Quality seeks public comment on the state's response to the environmental aspects of a proposed project in the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

October 23, 2012 to November 13, 2012

TYPE OF RESPONSE:

Federal Consistency Certification

DEQ is reviewing a proposed federal permitting action to determine if it is consistent with the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (VCP) established pursuant to the U.S. Coastal Zone Management Act. The VCP seeks to protect the quality of air, water or other natural resources in Virginia's coastal area.

NAME OF AGENCY PROPOSING THE PROJECT :

USDOT/Federal Highway Administration and DOD/U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The City of Virginia Beach (Virginia Beach) proposes to replace the existing John A Lesner Bridge over the Lynnhaven River in Virginia Beach. The replacement bridge will be designed to handling six lanes of traffic, if necessary, in the future. The project includes upgrades to the intersection of Shore Drive with East Stratford Road and the intersection of Shore Drive with Vista Circle and aesthetic improvements within the project limits. Each 53'8" bridge section includes two 12-foot wide travel lanes, 10-foot outside and 6-foot inside shoulders, and a 10-foot multi-use path. A seawall will be constructed along the eastern shoreline of the Lynnhaven River, between Point Chesapeake and the Virginia Pilots facility. A temporary bulkhead will be constructed to facilitate construction of the bridge and stabilize the shoreline and adjoining city disposal area, which will also serve as the contractor's lay-down area for the bridge construction. The proposed bulkhead will be removed after construction and the area will be restored to its previous condition naturally over time. The project requires approval by the Federal Highway Administration, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permitting. Virginia Beach has submitted a Federal Consistency Certification that finds the proposed action consistent with the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program.

HOW TO COMMENT:

DEQ accepts comments from the public by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may review the project documents at DEQ's central office in Richmond.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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